

UTAH LAKE INTERIM MANAGEMENT PLAN  
REFINEMENTS FOR 1994

**REPORTING ON TRANSBASIN IMPORTS, RESERVOIR RELEASES, AND RETURN FLOW CREDITS**

\* Each water user importing water must report to the commissioner the rights under which the water is imported and its destination. If more than one right or destination is involved, the water user must report the quantity or proportion attributed to each right or destination.

\* Each water user releasing or spilling water from a reservoir must report what water is being released or spilled and the water rights involved. If more than one water right is involved in a release or a spill, the water user must report the quantity or proportion attributed to each right.

\* Reports must be made prior to or concurrently with the imports, releases or spills. Any changes which may occur (water rights, destination, etc.) during the course of importing water, a release, or a spill must be reported to the commissioner within one day of the change. Any changes will relate only to the flows which occur following the date of the report (or the date of the change if it was the day prior).

\* Any water user wishing to claim return flow credit in Utah Lake must file a report with the State Engineer stating the amount of credit claimed, the water rights involved, and the basis for the amount of credit claimed. The report must be filed annually prior to November 1.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE SYSTEM STORAGE CONVERSION CURVE**

\* The State Engineer will consider modifying the system storage conversion curve upon written request from a water user stating that the water user's water rights in Utah Lake will not be exercised during the coming management plan year (Nov. 1 - Oct. 31). The request should indicate the amount of water that will be left unused and the water rights covering the water use.

\* Requests for modification for the coming management plan year will be accepted only prior to April 1.

\* Modifications to the curve will be based upon the amount of water to be left unused in Utah Lake.

\* Leaving water unused in Utah Lake will not give the water user any other right in exchange for the reduction.

### EVAPORATION LOSSES ON IMPORT WATER HELD IN UTAH LAKE

\* There are two different methods which could be used to apportion the evaporation which will be charged to import water:

The standard practice on storage reservoirs statewide is to apportion evaporation losses based on the proportion of individual storage to the total contents of the reservoir. For example, if the total contents of Utah Lake were 100,000 AF and there were 10,000 AF of import water in the lake, then according to this method of apportionment the import water would be charged with 1/10th of the evaporation loss.

Another method which would be reasonable, because of the lake's large surface area compared to its contents, would base the apportioning of the losses on the increase in surface area caused by the import water in the lake. For example, if the surface area of the lake were 48,000 acres and the water imported to the lake caused the surface area to increase to 50,000 acres, then the import water would be charged with 2/50ths of the evaporation. Evaporation charges would be determined based on the surface area increase caused by the import water and return flow credits as a whole and then apportioned among the different imports and return flow credits according to the relative amounts of each one.

The method of apportioning which will be used will be determined after comments are received from the water users.

\* Evaporation losses will be calculated on a daily basis according to the modified Blaney Criddle method. Evaporation losses will be charged against import storage water beginning the month after it has been stored (i.e. water stored during April will begin being charged with evaporation in May). The only exception to this will be return flow credit which will be charged with evaporation loss beginning in November after it has been reported.

### TRANSPORTATION LOSSES ON PROVO RIVER

\* The 1921 Provo River Decree indicates that a 4% transmission loss (for lack of information on actual losses) will be charged against storage water, Weber River water, and Ontario Drain water. The storage water referred to is the head of the river storage as Deer Cr. had not yet been constructed. Also the Duchesne Tunnel was not yet in service so it was not mentioned. It appears that historic practice developed to stay with the intent of the decree as new features were implemented on the river. Thus, historic practice has been to charge the 4% loss on all import or storage water originating upstream of Heber Valley.

\* We see no reason to diverge from historic practice, therefore all import or storage water originating upstream of Heber Valley will be charged a 4% transmission loss as it is released for use or as it is physically moved to another storage location. This loss charge will be applicable at all seasons of the year.

\* The State Engineer is willing to consider changing the historic practice if the actual transmission losses on the different stretches of the river can be demonstrated by the results of a gain/loss study.